

# **LEGISLATION**



**BETHEL PARK BLACK HAWK  
INVITATIONAL**

**FEBRUARY 9 – 10, 2017**

## # 1 A Resolution to Honor William Howard Taft

1. WHEREAS: Our 27<sup>th</sup> President, William Howard Taft, achieved many accomplishments in
2. the fields of conservation, trust-busting, and civil-service reform during the
3. Progressive Era; and
4. WHEREAS: Taft also used effective foreign policy, specifically “Dollar Diplomacy”, to
5. both further domestic and foreign interests; and
6. WHEREAS: Taft also served with distinction in several other civil service positions, most
7. notably as our 10<sup>th</sup> Supreme Court Chief Justice; and
8. WHEREAS: Taft left behind a Progressive legacy, a devotion of honesty, and a firm
9. commitment to and passion for, the rule of law; and
10. WHEREAS: Many of our leaders are honored with monuments in Washington, D.C., but
11. this executive and judicial heavyweight has merely a burial site in Arlington
12. Cemetery; and
13. WHEREAS: President Taft’s accomplishments warrant far more than a gravestone that was
14. not even paid for by the government but rather by his family;
15. THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the federal government finance and create an
16. architectural monument in the capital for the honor and greater recognition of
17. William Howard Taft, in order that his achievements will no longer go unsung.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethel Park High School

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## **# 2 A Resolution Regarding the Banishment of the Death Penalty for Convicted Felons**

1. WHEREAS only 21 countries take part in in the death penalty out of 195 countries in the
2. world, which is contradicting the "common" standard procedure taken by other nations; and
3. WHEREAS according to Amnesty International, over 130 people have
4. been released from death rows throughout the country since 1973 due to evidence of their
5. wrongful convictions; and
6. WHEREAS the endless appeals trials and required additional procedures clog the United
7. States court system; and
8. WHEREAS in California, a 2008 study by the Commissioner on the Fair Administration of
9. Justice reported that it costs an estimated \$66.3 million annually to hold the inmates
10. sentenced to death during trials, which usually takes 15 to 20 years.
11. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the death penalty be banned for use as a
12. punishment for convicted felons; and
13. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all current death row inmates have their
14. sentences changed to life in prison.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Peters Township High School*

# # 3 A Bill to Make Our Trade Freer and Fairer

Submitted by Upper St. Clair High School

1 Be it enacted by the student Congress here assembled that

2 Section 1. All tariffs on the imports of the United States of America are abolished.

3 Section 2. All restrictions on the importation of goods and services, other than those that

4 apply to the sale and transportation of the same good or service produced domestically, are

5 abolished.

6 Section 3. An exception to Section 2 will be made in the case that the nation that would

7 export the goods and services to the United States is currently engaged in a declared war with

8 the United States. The restrictions will be removed upon the end of the war.

9 Section 4. The federal government will no longer make any transfer payments or interest-free

10 loans to for-profit firms.

11 Section 5. This bill will go into effect upon passage.

12 Section 6. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

## # 4 A BILL TO LEGALIZE PROSTITUTION

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **Section 1:** Prostitution shall be a legalized and licensed profession in the  
3 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

4 **Section 2:** All prostitutes will register with the Departments of Public Health  
5 within their respective counties of the Commonwealth within 60 days  
6 of passage of this bill.

7 **Section 3:** At the time of registration they will be given an appointment for a  
8 physical examination to include testing for AIDS and STDs.

9 **Section 4:** Upon the receipt of a favorable medical report they will be licensed to  
10 practice their profession in the Commonwealth. The licensing fee  
11 shall be \$1500.00 per year.

12 **Section 5:** Each licensed prostitute will be required to have a complete physical,  
13 including medical testing for STD's and HIV every six months. The  
14 examining physician must submit all health information to the  
15 county's Department of Public Health within fifteen (15) days of the  
16 examination.

17 **Section 6:** Monies earned through prostitution will be taxed as a wage tax at the  
18 legislated rate for Pennsylvania wage earners.

19 **Section 7:** Practicing prostitution without a license will be punishable by a fine  
20 of \$5000.00 and imprisonment of not less than one year nor in excess  
21 of three years.

22 **Section 6:** Implementation and maintenance of this law shall be administered by  
23 a newly created bureau of the Pennsylvania Department of Health,  
24 Education, and Welfare and financed by the monies generated from  
25 the licensing fees.

26 **Section 7** This bill shall have the force of law within six months of passage.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethel Park High School

## **# 5** A Resolution to Provide for a Minor's Access to a Personal Computer

1. Whereas: The use of technology in education is increasing; and
2. Whereas: Many school districts are implementing the use of online textbooks in lieu of
3.               those in print; and
4. Whereas: The distribution of personal computers to all high school students would enhance
5.               learning, and provide for better communication between teacher and student; and
6. Whereas: Having a computer would provide for distance learning; and
7. Whereas: Said ownership would provide integration of the student into a technologically
8.               integrated society;
9. Therefore be it resolved by the Student Congress here assembled that:
10. every student be provided with a personal computer.
11. Be it further resolved that a national lottery be established to fund said distribution.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gettysburg High School

**# 6** A Resolution to Change the Military Age to 21 Years

Submitted by Danville H.S.

1. **WHEREAS:** The US military age is currently set to 18, thus a significant
2. percentage of America's army is made of teenagers.
3. **WHEREAS:** Joining the military is not an uncommon career choice for teenagers at
4. the age of 18. Cadet-related work will open up for those of younger
5. age, and these will be menial tasks that would be impractical for higher-
6. ranked soldiers to do.
7. **WHEREAS:** The 3-year cadet program will also train the teenagers to become better
8. soldiers, and thus the United States military will become more of an elite
9. force.
10. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
11. The United States minimum military age will be set to 18 and a 3-year
12. cadet program will be put in place for teenagers who want to serve in
13. the military.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by*

# # 7

## **A Resolution to Make School Lunches Healthier by Instituting New Food Options and Eliminating Unhealthy Alternatives**

- 1 WHEREAS, schools offer a range of high-fat, high-carbohydrate lunch meals which  
2 contribute to the 21% of children ages 12-19 who are clinically obese, and 18%  
3 of children 6-11 years old.
- 4 WHEREAS, children and adolescents who are obese are likely to maintain the  
5 weight and therefore are more susceptible to cardiovascular disease, high cholesterol,  
6 high blood pressure and type II diabetes.
- 7 WHEREAS, obesity is associated with an increased likelihood for certain types of  
8 cancer including breast, colon, endometrium, esophageal, kidney, pancreas, gall bladder,  
9 thyroid, ovary, cervix, and prostate.
- 10 THEREFORE be it resolved by the congress here assembled that: salads and sandwiches,  
11 along with fruits and vegetables should be the only options for students to choose  
12 from in school cafeterias.
- 13 BE IT FURTHER resolved that any snacks are to be approved by the USDA as  
14 certifiably “healthy” in terms of caloric intake, saturated fats, and sodium.

Introduced by Sewickley Academy



**#8 A BILL TO IMPLEMENT A SEVERANCE TAX ON NATURAL GAS EXTRACTED  
FROM THE MARCELLUS SHALE FORMATION**

1 BE IT ENACTED by the Student Congress here assembled:

2 Section 1: A severance tax will be imposed upon each and every natural gas producer  
3 who uses water resources from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to  
4 extract natural gas from the Marcellus Shale Formation.

5 Section 2: The tax shall not be less than nor exceed one dollar (\$1.00) per one  
6 thousand (1,000) cubic feet of natural gas.

7 Section 3: Said tax will be paid into a dedicated fund for the preservation, cleaning  
8 and improvement of the streams, rivers, and waterways of the  
9 Commonwealth.

10 Section 4: This tax program and its benefits will be under the oversight of the  
11 Department of Environmental Protection.

12 Section 5: This bill shall have the effect of law within 18 months of passage.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethel Park HS

**# 9 A Resolution to Establish Term Limits in the United States Congress**

1. WHEREAS in the 2014 Midterm Elections, 82% of Senators were reelected.
2. WHEREAS in the 2014 Midterm Elections, 95% of Representatives were reelected.
3. WHEREAS many Founding Fathers, including George Washington, Thomas
4. Jefferson, and James Madison, were strongly against the concept of career
5. politicians.
6. WHEREAS incumbent politicians have no incentive to solve problems in Congress
7. because they know that there is a good chance of their reelection, regardless of
8. achievement in the House or Senate.
9. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Representatives will be able to hold a
10. maximum of three terms for two years each.
11. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Senators will be able to hold a
12. maximum of two terms for six years each.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Peters Township High School*

## # 10 A Resolution to Control the Spread of the Ebola Virus

Submitted by Danville H. S.

1 Whereas, the Ebola Virus has infected many countries which include Guinea, Liberia,  
2 Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Senegal, Spain, and the U. S., and  
3 Whereas, the virus has killed more than five thousand people in these countries, killing more  
4 as we speak, and  
5 Whereas, many developed countries have contracted the disease due to lack of protocol that  
6 would help defend from the virus, and  
7 Whereas, many people in developing countries have neither the resources nor the education  
8 to defend against this disease, and  
9 Whereas, Ebola can survive out of a host for many days, and without proper protection,  
10 Ebola can spread through bodily fluids, such as blood, sperm, sweat, mucus and  
11 other liquids, making it very hard to defend against, be it therefore  
12 Resolved, by the Student Congress here assembled that the U.S. fund the Center for Disease  
13 Control and that the U.S. charge its ambassadors to have the United Nations to fund  
14 the World Health Organization in order to equip and educate doctors and nurses  
15 with the tools and knowledge needed to control and contain the outbreak,  
16 Be It Further Resolved, that these educated and equipped workers be deployed into affected  
17 countries to help defend against the disease, help the affected and to also educate  
18 the general public about Ebola,  
19 Be It Further Resolved that a set of regulations be established for anyone that has come in  
20 contact with any infected persons that enforces screening for the virus and  
21 surveillance in order to watch for symptoms.

## # 11 A BILL TO GRANT HAWAIIAN INDEPENDENCE

- 1 Section 1: The state of Hawaii be granted right of sovereignty as an  
2 independent and self-governing nation.
- 3 Section 2: The United States will recognize the descendants of King David  
4 Kalakaua and Queen Liliuokalani as the rightful rulers of the  
5 nation of Hawaii.
- 6 Section 3: Treaties referring to the mutual prosperity and national security of  
7 the United States of America and the sovereign nation of Hawaii  
8 will be signed.
- 9 Section 4: All United States military bases currently located in Hawaii will  
10 be granted a 99 year lease which may be renewed upon the  
11 consent of both nations.
- 12 Section 5: Upon passage of this bill there will be a two-year transitional  
13 period in which the United States of America will cede all  
14 authority over the Hawaiian Islands and the Hawaiian citizens  
15 will establish their government and ruling authorities.
- 16 Section 6: This bill will have the effect of law within one year of passage.

Respectfully submitted

Bethel Park High School

## **#12 A Resolution to Honor William Howard Taft**

1. WHEREAS: Our 27<sup>th</sup> President, William Howard Taft, achieved many accomplishments in
2.           the fields of conservation, trust-busting, and civil-service reform during the
3.           Progressive Era; and
4. WHEREAS: Taft also used effective foreign policy, specifically “Dollar Diplomacy”, to
5.           both further domestic and foreign interests; and
6. WHEREAS: Taft also served with distinction in several other civil service positions, most
7.           notably as our 10<sup>th</sup> Supreme Court Chief Justice; and
8. WHEREAS: Taft left behind a Progressive legacy, a devotion of honesty, and a firm
9.           commitment to and passion for, the rule of law; and
10. WHEREAS: Many of our leaders are honored with monuments in Washington, D.C., but
11.           this executive and judicial heavyweight has merely a burial site in Arlington
12.           Cemetery; and
13. WHEREAS: President Taft’s accomplishments warrant far more than a gravestone that was
14.           not even paid for by the government but rather by his family;
15. THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the federal government finance and create an
16.           architectural monument in the capital for the honor and greater recognition of
17.           William Howard Taft, in order that his achievements will no longer go unsung.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethel Park High School

**# 13** A RESOLUTION TO DECREASE THE AMOUNT OF STUDENT  
DEBT

1. WHEREAS: the amount of national student debt has reached 1.2 trillion dollars,
2. WHEREAS: the large amount of debt deters people from lower income families from
3. attending college,
4. WHEREAS: federal and state loans have very high interest rates,
5. WHEREAS: the time to pay off student debts is increasing, since finding a job after
6. graduation is becoming exceedingly difficult,
7. WHEREAS: compared to other nations, the United States is lacking in the support it provides
8. to those attending post-secondary educational facilities,
9. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT: the
10. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania further subsidize postsecondary education by increasing the
11. amount of grants given;
12. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the interest rate on loans taken out for postsecondary
13. education be decreased.

Submitted by Cardinal  
Wuerl North Catholic HS

**# 14** A Resolution to Support Feminine Hygiene Products  
Submitted by North Allegheny

1. Whereas: Feminine hygiene products, such as sanitary napkins and tampons, are a necessary
2. aspect of health care for half the United States population.
3. Whereas: In many states, such as California, New York, and Ohio, sales tax applies to
4. feminine hygiene products as they are still considered non-essential, luxury items.
5. Whereas: Welfare does not cover the purchase of sanitary products, and many women are
6. forced to sell food stamps to pay for these products, as reported by the Investigative Fund.
7. Whereas: For women in prisons, there is often inadequate supply of hygiene products, or they
8. cost money in the prison commissary.
9. Therefore, be it resolved by the Pennsylvania Student Congress here assembled the
10. following:
11. All sales taxes are removed from sanitary napkins, tampons or similar items used for
12. feminine hygiene.
13. All federal prisons are required to provide free feminine hygiene products to all female
14. inmates.
15. Feminine hygiene products will be distributed to low-income women through the Title X
16. Family Planning service, in the Department of Health and Human Services, and its
17. requirements.

## ***# 15 A Resolution to Enact Sanctions on the State of Israel***

1. WHEREAS the State of Israel and the state of Palestine have been in constant conflict 2. since the breakdown of the British mandate of Palestine into the state of Jewish 3. governed Israel and the disputed territories of the Gaza Strip, Golan heights, and West 4. Bank; and 5. WHEREAS in July tensions were once again on the rise when Israel invaded the now 6. Palestinian controlled territories in the Gaza strip as a response to missile attacks 7. carried out by a Palestinian terrorist organization known as Hamas; and 8. WHEREAS This invasion was a brutal, unnecessary, and imprecise response to the 9. actions of one terrorist organization. In the eyes of many this invasion was a direct 10. infringement of the human rights of the Palestinian people living in the area. 11. Furthermore the ICC has now begun a preliminary investigation into the actions taken 12. by the Israeli government in this conflict; 13. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the PHSSL student congress here assembled, 14. that in order to protect and maintain the safety and security of the Palestinian people 15. the United States shall enact future legislation to take action against the Israeli 16. government for any and all offenses committed in this invasion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School



## # 16 A BILL TO DETER POTENTIAL U.S.TERRORISTS

BE IT ENACTED by the PHSSL State Student Congress here assembled that:

1 Section 1: American citizens who openly express sympathy for foreign groups and  
2 countries determined to be enemies of the United States shall be designated  
3 as potentially dangerous individuals by the United States Government.

4 Section 2: American citizens who engage in recruiting for or propagandizing on behalf of  
5 those same groups, may be denied government subsidies in the form public  
6 assistance, education loans and grants, and federally subsidized medical  
7 benefits. These individuals will also be placed on the U.S. Government "no fly  
8 list".

9 Section 3: American citizens who, without authorization, leave the United States and  
10 enter a foreign country determined to be an enemy of the United States for  
11 the purpose of supporting terrorist groups or hostile governments in any way,  
12 will have their passports revoked, will be designated as terrorists, and will be  
13 refused re-entry into the United States. Those persons will also suffer the  
14 loss of all Federal Government subsidies.

15 Section 4: This legislation will take effect 90 days after passage

Respectfully Submitted,

Quigley Catholic High School

